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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/516,607	05/17/2005	Steen Nielsen	02405.0248	7121
22852	7590	11/29/2007	EXAMINER	
FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW, GARRETT & DUNNER LLP 901 NEW YORK AVENUE, NW WASHINGTON, DC 20001-4413			IZAGUIRRE, ISMAEL	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3765	
			MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
			11/29/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/516,607

Applicant(s)

NIELSEN, STEEN

Examiner

Ismael Izaguirre

Art Unit

3765

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 09 October 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 11-25 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 11-23 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 24 and 25 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

SPECIFICATION

In the specification, in the last line of page 11, the word "way" should be replaced by "wait".

CLAIMS

Summary

Claims 11, 20 and 22 are the independent claims under consideration in this Office Action.

Claims 12-19, 21 and 23-25 are the dependent claims under consideration in this Office Action.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter, which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 11-19 and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Referring to claim 11, line 7, the words "stretches across the boom" are unclear. A boom conveyor is provided and is intended for conveying the piece of cloth across the boom, but no structure or means has been noted for causing a stretching of the cloth.

Referring to the other noted claims, these claims include all the limitations of an indefinite base claim (or an indefinite intervening claim), and are therefore indefinite as well. See MPEP § 608.01(n).

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) The invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 11, 20, 22 and 23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Ueda et al. (5,169,282).

Ueda et al. teach a device for feeding a substantially rectangular piece of cloth to a feeder 16 (column 6, line 5) prior to ironing. The device includes a boom structure 17, 18, 18, 19 provided transversely to the feeder 16 for placement or feeding of the article to the feeder. The boom includes boom conveyor means 10, 11 for moving the article across the longitudinal direction of the boom and where the means are separable from each other such that a stretching or spreading is provided to the article 7 (figure 1, for example). The device includes, at one end of the boom (across and facing end 15), a feed conveyor 3, designed to receive (with the help of an attendant 115, figure 9, for example), a straightened front edge portion of the cloth at 1, for transferring the cloth from the receiving end to a first turning device, at 14. The first turning device is provided between the boom conveyor, at 15, and the feed conveyor 3. The turning

device includes means 20, 23 and 22 for turning and transferring the cloth to the boom conveyor, at 14 and 15. The cloth is presented in a spread out manner on the boom for feeding to the cloth feeder 16 and eventual ironing of the cloth.

Claims 11, 14 and 20-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Borucki et al. (5,440,810).

Borucki et al. teach a device for feeding a substantially rectangular piece of cloth to a feeder with conveyor belts 20, prior to ironing. The device includes a boom structure 60 provided transversely to the feeder for placement or feeding of the article to the feeder. The boom includes boom conveyor means 56 for moving the article across the longitudinal direction of the boom and where the means 56, 58 are separable from each other such that a stretching or spreading is provided to the article (figure 7, for example). The device includes, at a front end of the boom, a feed conveyor 90, designed to either be parallel to the feed direction of the feeder or be angled between 190 and 260 degrees to the feeder to receive (with the help of an attendant), a straightened front edge portion of the cloth which is clamped at 100, for transferring the cloth from the receiving end to a first turning device 70. The first turning device is provided between the boom conveyor and the feed conveyor. The turning device includes means for clamping and turning the article (see figure 18) and presenting the cloth in a spread out manner on the boom for feeding to the cloth feeder and eventual ironing of the cloth.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

Claims 12, 13 and 15-19 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112.

Claims 24 and 25 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

PERTINENT CITATIONS

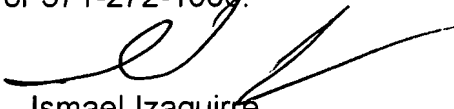
The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Kuipers and McCabe illustrate devices for feeding cloth to a feeder including a boom, and cloth feeding sections. Ishihara et al. and Weir illustrate device for feeding cloth to a feeder.

INQUIRIES

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ismael Izaguirre whose telephone number is (571) 272-4987. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (8:30-6:00).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gary Welch can be reached on (571) 272-4996. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Ismael Izaguirre
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3765